[29th January 1936

Investigation of the Hebballa Reservoir scheme and the Hebballa Diversion scheme in the Kollegal taluk.

* 547 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have been investigating the Hebballa Reservoir scheme and the Hebballa Diversion scheme in the Kollegal taluk; if so, in what stage they are?

A.—The two schemes were investigated and estimates were prepared in 1928. It was found that the Hebbahalla (Hebballa) Reservoir scheme was unremunerative and that it could not be considered even as a famine relief work and that the diversion scheme would not improve the existing supply. The schemes were therefore dropped in 1929.

Propaganda among ryots in regard to the Lower Bhavani Project.

* 548 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether meetings of ryots are convened by the revenue authorities with a view to elicit opinion or do propaganda about the Lower Bhavani Project;

(*b*) if so, how many such meetings have so far been held and in which of the places;

(*c*) how many ryots attended each of those meetings, and what opinion did they express; and

(*d*) at what stage the programme of construction of the Lower Bhavani Project now is and when it is to be launched?

A.—(*a*) A Special Revenue and Public Works Department staff is touring in the project area with a view to select lands for inclusion in the ayacut and for obtaining consent statements from the ryots agreeing to pay the water-rates fixed.

(*b*) & (*c*).—The Government have no information.

(*d*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers given to questions No. 875, dated 13th March 1935, and No. 155, dated 8th August 1935.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I ask whether the opinion expressed by the ryots of the area will be placed on the table of this House? "

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" I may inform the hon. Member that, as soon as the report is received, it will be gone into; it will be placed on the table of the House, if necessary."